**Debating the New Deal:**

Over time, opinions about the New Deal have ranged from harsh criticism to high praise. Most Conservatives think President Roosevelt’s policies made the federal government too large and too powerful. They believed that the government stifled free enterprise and individual initiative. Liberal critics, in contrast argue that President Roosevelt didn’t do enough to stabilize the economy and to eliminate social and economic inequalities. Supporters of the New Deal contend, however, that the president struck a reasonable balance between two extremes- unregulated capitalism and overregulated socialism- and helped the country recover from its economic difficulties. What do you think?

Evaluate the Alphabet Soup programs: Based on your notes on pages 20-21 and your knowledge of the new deal reflect on various agencies that were passed during FDR’s administration.

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| --- | --- |
| Pro’s | Con’s |

**Reactions:**

1935- Supreme Court struck down NIRA (National Industrial Recovery Act)- provided money to states to create jobs chiefly in the construction of schools and community buildings

* Law gave legislative powers to executive branch
* Enforcement of industry codes within states went beyond federal governments constitutional powers to regulate interstate commerce

1936- Supreme Court struck down AAA (Agricultural Adjustment Act)- Act sought to raise crops by lowering production. Paid farmers to not grow/destroy crop/kill livestock.

* Agriculture is a local matter and should be regulated by states

Task: On the back of this sheet take notes that will assist you in answering the below question.

***Did FDR strike a reasonable balance between two extremes- unregulated capitalism and overregulated socialism?***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes, a balance was struck: | No, a balance was not struck: |